


9th Grade Honors - Exploring Literary Genres 2014-2015 Syllabus

Contact Information

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Wikispace: www.mrsmcnesby.wikispaces.com

 @nmcnesby

To be successful:

Our class is a community of writers. To be a part of this community means to ...

- Participate and engage in our writing activities
- Share your writings with others
- Listen and respect the ideas and writings of others (including me ☺)
- Help to create an environment where others feel safe to share their ideas and writings
- Make your classmates look good – help them to become better writers, listeners and speakers

The Portfolio

In this class we will assemble all of our writings into a comprehensive portfolio consisting of components such as ...

- Logs
- Audits
- Reflections
- Fun warm-ups
- Developed and undeveloped writings

**See portfolio guidelines (packet)*

The Class

- Attend class always. (Communicate your absences preferably ahead of time – but at least on the day of – so that you will not be behind. Check my wikispace for the homework.)
- Participate actively in discussions, readings, group work and presentations.
- Strive to build a constructive and meaningful relationship with your peers and teacher.

Materials

- Notebook/copybook
- 1-inch binder for your portfolio with tab dividers
- Box of tissues

First Quarter (Short Stories)

- Short Story Unit
- Edgar Allan Poe Unit
- Supplemental texts

Second Quarter (Drama)

- *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
- Supplemental texts

Third Quarter (Novel)

- *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas

Fourth Quarter (Poetry and Early American Canon)

- Complete *The Count of Monte Cristo*
- Supplemental texts

**timeline subject to change*

Absentee Procedure/Late Work Policy:

If you are absent from class, YOU MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE to find out what you have missed. I will not track you down to collect assignments, review missed material, or schedule make-up tests/quizzes. When you return, you must take responsibility for your absence. Ask a friend for any missed notes. Failure to make up missed work will result in an automatic ZERO. You are responsible for maintaining your own grade.

Late Work Policy

You are required to turn in assignments on time when you are present for school. Be sure to submit work on days that you will miss class due to an early dismissal or late arrival (including sports and school-related activities). In other words, if you are in the building, your work is due. YOU ARE HERE, even if you miss this class.

- Late homework assignments will only be accepted ONE DAY late for half credit.
- Late writing assignments and projects WILL be accepted; however, your grade for the assignment will drop a letter grade for each day that the assignment is late.
- Writing assignments must be ready to be handed in, printed BEFORE class. If you are having printing issues, give yourself enough time to resolve the issue. If the problem persists, email me in advance so that I may respond back to you. If you wait to tell me about your failed printing attempts, your assignment is considered late.
- You will have NO MORE THAN ONE WEEK to make up any tests/quizzes missed due to an excused absence. Failure to make up the assessment within one week will result in a ZERO. See me to schedule a make up during a study hall or after school.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a violation of academic ethics. Plagiarism is the use of another person's work and is academically considered theft. This means you absolutely MUST give credit to the proper source if you directly copy, **paraphrase**, or summarize another's person's ideas. Copying, stealing, or borrowing someone else's homework is plagiarism! Three or more significant words taken directly from another work should be cited. In accordance with the school guidelines, violation of the plagiarism policy will result in a ZERO for the assignment.

This is a college preparatory course. You will be working hard this year, and I will be working hard for you. I expect that you will have the maturity to speak with me or email me directly about any concerns, as I will be doing the same. I check my email daily and will do my best to get back to you in a timely manner. Feel free to ask any questions! I look forward to an excellent year and am excited to work with you.

Departmental Policies

- Quarter and semester grades will not be rounded. (Example: 89.5 = B)
- There will be no opportunities for extra credit at the end of the quarter or semester.
- The average of the midterm and final percentages will be weighted as a "fifth marking period" when calculating final average.

Best wishes for a great year!

CLASSROOM CONTRACT

*After reading and discussing this classroom contract with your parent/guardian, please provide your name and signature in the space below. In addition, please have your parent/guardian provide his/her name and signature in the space below. Please feel free to write on the back of this sheet any information you would like to share about yourself/your child. Once both portions have been signed, please submit this page to Mrs. McNesby. Keep pages 1-2 of this classroom contract in your English notebook so that you may refer to it throughout the school year. **This contract and required materials are due on Monday, September 8, 2014.***

STUDENT

I have read, understood, and agreed to the guidelines and procedures for Mrs. McNesby's English class, and have shared them with my parent/guardian. I am also aware of the consequences for any form of plagiarism.

Student's Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Student's E-mail: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read, understood, and agreed to the guidelines and procedures for Mrs. McNesby's English class, and have discussed them with my child. I am also aware of the consequences for any form of plagiarism.

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian's E-mail: _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: _____

Thank you! I look forward to working with you this year! ☺